The `ctanbib` package

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1 Introduction

This package provides script named `ctanbib` which can be used for retrieving of the bibliographic information for packages hosted on CTAN.

2 Usage

It can be used in the following way:
`ctanbib [options] ⟨packagename⟩ > filename.bib`
   The `curl` utility needs to be installed on the user's system in order to support the package info download.

3 Available options

-c,--ctan use the `@ctan` type instead of `@manual`. The difference between the two is that the url field contains packages CTAN path, instead of a link to the package.

-h,--help print the help message.

-v,--version print the version info.

4 Examples

`ctanbib latex`

This invocation will print data in the BibLaTeX format to the standard output:

```
@manual{latex,
title = {The Latex package},
subtitle = {A TeX macro package that defines LaTeX},
author = {Lamport, Leslie and The LaTeX Team},
```

```
url = {http://www.latex-project.org/},
urldate = {2018-08-23},
date = {2018-04-01},
version = {PL 5}
}
```

The `--ctan` option:

```
ctanbib -c hyperref
```

This produces a bib record with the `@ctan` type:

```
@ctan{hyperref,
title = {The Hyperref package},
subtitle = {Extensive support for hypertext in LaTeX},
author = {Rahtz, Sebastian and Oberdiek, Heiko},
url = {/macros/latex/contrib/hyperref},
urldate = {2018-08-27},
date = {},
version = {6.86b}
}
```

5 License

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6 Acknowledgements

This package was created thanks to TeX.sx user Daniel[1]. Lukas C. Bossert had useful comments which led to update of the original script and it's eventual release on CTAN.

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[1]https://tex.stackexchange.com/users/3751/daniel

7 Changelog

2019-09-21	Try to find the author in full CTAN author list if the author cannot be found in the package info
2019-09-16	Use the CTAN API 2.0 to fetch the package info
2019-05-04	Version 0.1c released
2019-05-04	Use the `curl` command to download the package info
2019-05-04	Added information about the need to have the `curl` command installed
2019-03-11	Version 0.1b released
2018-09-10	Added support for institutional names
2018-09-10	Escape TeX commands in the title and subtitle
2018-08-29	Added man page
2018-08-27	Added –ctan option
2018-08-23	Version 0.1 released.
2018-08-23	Created documentation.
2018-08-21	Rewrote the script to use the DOM api provided by LuaXML. This provides greater flexibility in the XML processing.
2018-08-20	Fixed the script for the current XML format provided by CTAN.
2014-09-12	Initial version of the script have been released in answer on TeX.sx[2].

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[2]`https://tex.stackexchange.com/a/200856/2891`